

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KABUL 04776 031229Z

47

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 PC-10 ACDA-19 EB-11

COME-00 DRC-01 /179 W

----- 090349

R 011025Z AUG 74 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8948
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 4776

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT,PFOR, AF

SUBJ: THEPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN AFTER ONE YEAR

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT DAOUD DOMINATES THE PRESENT REGIME
IN AFGHANISTAN. HIS GOALS AND PROGRAMS, WHILE CONSISTENT
WITH AFGHAN NON-ALIGNMENT AND THE "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH
THE USSR, GENERALLY ARE PARALLEL TO U.S. INTERESTS. END SUMMARY.

2. WHEN ONE TALKS ABOUT AFGHANISTAN'S POLICIES IN THE SUMMER
OF 1974 ONE TALKS OF PRESIDENT MOHAMMAD DAOUD, THERE IS NO
QUESTION ABOUT HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE TRADITIONAL ESTABLISHMENT,
HIS
SUPREMACY OVER THE ARMED FORCES, OVER THE BUREAUCRACY,
AND OVER THE YOUNG RADICALS WHO CAME INTO POWER WITH HIM. THERE
STILL ARE SOME FRICTIONS WITHIN DAOUD'S ENTOURAGE AND WE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KABUL 04776 031229Z

EXPECT THAT THERE WILL BE SOME SHIFTS IN PERSONNEL IN THE

MONTHS AHEAD DESIGNED TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE TOP OFFICIALS OF HIS GOVERNMENT FULLY SHARE AND ARE RESPONSIVE TO THE PRESIDENT'S OUTLOOK AND GOALS. SOME CHANGES WILL ALSO BE MADE TO TRY AND IMPROVE EFFICIENCY.

3. DAOUD'S OUTLOOK AND GOALS ALSO ARE CLEAR. HE IS DEDICATED TO AN INDEPENDENT AFGHANISTAN AND TO THE MODERNIZATION OF HIS COUNTRY ALONG LINES COMPATIBLE WITH UNIQUELY AFGHAN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL TRADITIONS. THESE GOALS CORRESPOND TO OUR INTERESTS IN AFGHAN INDEPENDENCE AND IN RAISING THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE AFGHAN PEOPLE. NATIONALISM, PRAGMATISM, NON-ALIGNMENT ARE WORDS WHICH DESCRIBE DAOUD'S OUTLOOK. AND HE WILL BE DOGGED AND PERSISTENT IN PURSUING HIS GOALS. HE WILL NOT COUNTENANCE OUTSIDE (FOREIGN) INTERFERENCE OR INTERNAL DISLOYALTY. HE IS CONVINCED THAT STRONG, IF NEED BE HARSH, LEADERSHIP IS ESSENTIAL FOR AFGHANISTAN AT THIS TIME.

4. WE EXPECT SOME FORM OF CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK TO EMERGE IN THE MONTHS AHEAD, BUT THIS PROBABLY WILL NOT WEAKEN DAOUD'S PERSONAL AUTHORITY. THE MAJOR CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM WILL BE TO ASSURE STABLE SUCCESSION TO DAOUD, A MAN IN HIS MID SIXTIES.

5. IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THREE THEMES STAND OUT. FIRST, DAOUD WILL ACCEPT AID FROM ALMOST ANY SOURCE TO ASSIST HIS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS. THE STRESS IN THAT SENTENCE IS ON WORD "HIS". SECONDLY, WHILE MAINTAINING NON-ALIGNMENT, HE IS ACUTELY AWARE THAT HIS REGIME DEPENDS ON THE ARMED FORCES AND THAT THE SOVIET UNION SUPPLIES HIS ARMED FORCES. WE CAN THEREFORE EXPECT A CONTINUING "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND THE USSR. THIRDLY, DAOUD WILL CONTINUE TO BE MOTIVATED BY THE NEED TO COPE WITH CENTRIFUGAL FORCES WITHIN THE COUNTRY AND BY HIS ANCESTRAL LOYALTIES TO KEEP THE PUSHTANISTAN ISSUE ALIVE. BUT GIVEN AFGHANISTAN'S NEED TO DEVOTE RESOURCES TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TO STRENGTHENING OF ITS INFERIOR MILITARY POSITION, HE WILL STOP SHORT OF INITIATING ARMED CLASHES WITH PAKISTAN UNLESS SEVERELY PROVOKED.

6. IN SHORT, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE GOOD NEWS TO REPORT FROM AFGHANISTAN. THERE IS A PURPOSEFUL REGIME. THERE IS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KABUL 04776 031229Z

ENHANCED FOCUS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THERE ARE GROWING LINKS BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAN WHICH WILL BENEFIT BOTH COUNTRIES AND BASIC U.S. INTERESTS IN THE AREA. PROBLEMS REMAIN, INCLUDING A SHORTAGE OF TRAINED PEOPLE DEDICATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFGHANISTAN AS A NATIONAL ENTITY, ALL THE DIFFICULTIES ASSOCIATED WITH FACT THAT AFGHANISTAN IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S POOREST COUNTRIES, THE SUCCESSION QUESTION, SOME DISCONTENT WITH THE AUTHORITARIAN NATURE OF THE REGIME, PUSHTUNISTAN.

BUT DAOUD'S GOALS AND OUR INTERESTS ARE PARALLEL IN MANY WAYS,
AND IT IS NOT HARD TO BE ENCOURAGED BY THE TRENDS HERE OVER
THE PAST YEAR AND THE PROSPECTS FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.
ELIOT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KABUL04776
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740212-0633
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740883/aaaactcw.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THEPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN AFTER ONE YEAR
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AF, (DAOUD, MOHAMMAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005